

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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UNCLAS JAKARTA 16590

SECSTATE FOR CU

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TOKYO FOR RPO KENDALL

EO 11652: NA  
SUBJ: AMSPEC HENRY SMITH III

1. HENRY P. SMITH III, AMSPEC, "CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN WITH  
HUMAN RIGHTS". ID-99.

2. QP-G ED-G AR-G RP-F

3. FORMER CONGRESSMAN HENRY P. SMITH III ATTENDED A SERIES  
OF INFORMAL MEETINGS ARRANGED BY USIS JAKARTA FROM DEC. 20TH  
TO 24TH. THE TIMING OF SMITH'S VISIT WAS UNFORTUNATE, AS  
MANY PROMINENT INDONESIANS, MOSLEMS NOTWITHSTANDING, AVAIL  
THEMSELVES OF THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS.  
THE MEETING AT FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA,  
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LEGAL GUIDANCE AND AT DEPART-  
MENT OF JUSTICE'S CRIMINOLOGY SECTION, PROVIDED SMITH  
WITH AN OVERVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN  
INDONESIA. BASED ON HIS EXPERIENCE AS A LAWYER, JUDGE  
AND CONGRESSMAN, MR. SMITH WAS ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS  
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ABOUT THE FUNCTIONING OF THE U.S. LEGAL SYSTEM, ALTHOUGH  
HIS OBSERVATIONS MAINLY SERVED TO DELINEATE HOW GREAT  
THE GAP IS BETWEEN OUR SYSTEM AND THEIRS, PARTICULARLY  
IN THE REALM OF HUMAN RIGHTS. FORMER CONGRESSMAN SMITH'S  
MOST SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE AT A MEETING WITH  
THE INDONESIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION. THERE, IN THE PRE-

SENCE OF A WELL-KNOWN JUDGE, INDONESIA'S MOST PROMINENT FEMALE LAWYER, AND AN OUTSPOKEN CIVIL LIBERTARIAN, SMITH HAD A FRANK EXCHANGE ON THE LEGAL ISSUES SURROUNDING POLITICAL CRIMES AND SOLUTIONS, I.A., SUBVERSION, TREASON, AND IMPEACHMENT. THOSE PRESENT WERE IMPRESSED THAT MR. SMITH HAD TAKEN PART IN THE WATERGATE HEARINGS, AND RE-ITERATED THAT THE OPENNESS OF THOSE PROCEEDINGS AND THE SUBSEQUENT INDICTMENTS AND CONVICTIONS WERE A TRULY IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY OF WHAT RULE UNDER LAW SHOULD BE.

4. HENRY SMITH'S EXPERIENCE AS A POLITICIAN SERVED HIM WELL IN HIS ROLE AS AMSPEC, AS HE WAS ABLE TO TAILOR HIS DISCUSSION TO THE INTERESTS OF THOSE LISTENING. THIS FACILITY HAD AN UNFORTUNATE ASPECT, HOWEVER, IN THAT IT OCCASSIONALLY RESULTED IN A RATHER SUPERVICIAL TREATMENT OF ISSUES OF IMPORT TO THE INDONESIANS, LIKE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW AND THE LEGAL CONTROL OF THE MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATION.

5. IF MR. SMITH DOES MAKE IT OUT TO MANILA NEXT YEAR, THE POST MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN HAVING HIM BACK, BUT HOPEFULLY IN A MORE FORTUITOUS TIME-FRAME.  
NEWSOM

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